

THE MCGILL DAILY

Volume 80, Number 78

Since 1911.

Monday, March 11, 1991

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by Kathleen Hickey

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The increase has been condemned by most student governments on campus. Student's Society, the Post Graduate Students' Society (PGSS), the Engineering

Undergraduate Society (EUS) and the council of student presidents have all voted in favour of a motion to not consider the proposal unless essential information is provided.

The students said they aren't necessarily against the fee increase, but they are reacting to the lack of comprehensive information, such as budget breakdowns or needs surveys, supporting the proposal for increases.

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8.7 per cent from the previous year.

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Student Services and chair of the sub-committee that initially passed the increase, said he first learned of the students' discontent with the process on Thursday night.

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According to Adams it will be a general safety audit, but the assessors will target dangerous places including areas that are poorly lit and hard to see from public places.

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The audit will also concentrate on areas of campus where women are often found alone. This includes places like women's washrooms which are sometimes 'stacked' in newer buildings so that all the women's washrooms are in one stairwell and all the men's in another, said Adams.

Adams also mentioned security and lighting around the Physiotherapy, Nursing and Social Work buildings where there are likely to be women students alone at night. "The university does not just operate from nine to five," Adams said.

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Walk Safe Network coordinator Amy O'Neil agreed. "Something should be done immediately about the locations of the phones or they should be got rid of all together."

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Safety Kits

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"I refused consent because the articles were not even relevant. Why couldn't they just wait until the next council meeting?" he asked.

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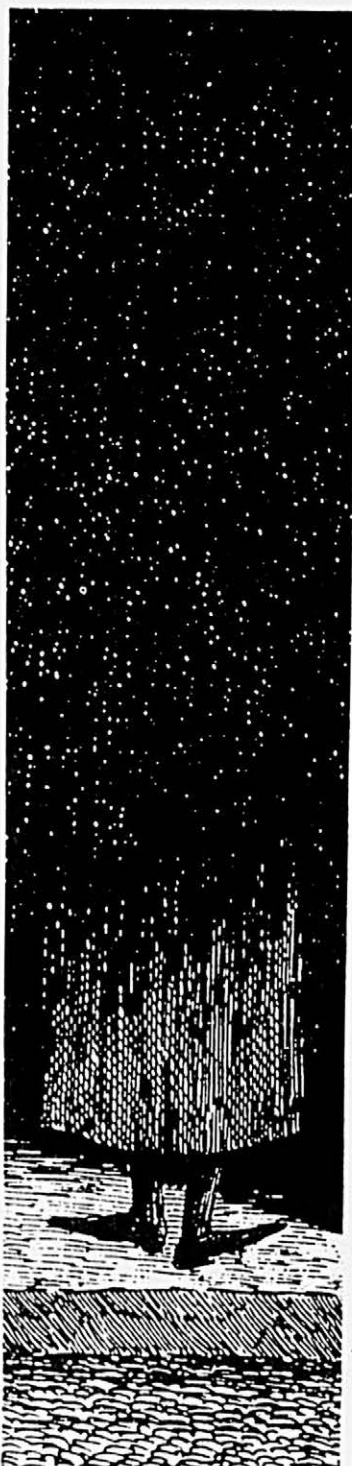
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Women save cash cooking collectively

by Kim Hershorn

In what even politicians and mediocrats are calling 'tough times', women afflicted by poverty are using tools like collective kitchens to help them gain financial autonomy.

On March 8, International Women's Day, the Women's Centre of Montréal held an open house, including workshops and discussion groups relating to the struggle of women to survive economic hardships during the recession.

"Instead of feeling like they have to beg at food banks, people have set up collective kitchens," explained Diane Norman, who does community development work.

Norman has helped start many

collective kitchen projects. "It's a self-help movement which allows people to provide for themselves independently, without outside help," she said.

Collective kitchens were first formally set up in 1986 in the Hochelaga-Maisonneuve area, and then they spread to most neighbourhoods in Montréal and all over Québec.

Once a month, a group of 4-6 women get together to plan their monthly menus, shop for specials, and cook. The cost usually amounts to approximately one dollar per meal for each person.

Claire Champagne and Jocelyne Leduc-Gauvin, members of a collective kitchen group in East Montréal, discussed the organisation of collective kitchens



Friday's talk at the Montréal Women's Centre explained how collective kitchens are helping women through the recession.

to help women with lower incomes work together to save money and plan a more nourishing diet.

"Due to poor nourishment, women who live in lower income areas have a life expectancy 14 years less than those who live in higher income areas. The collective kitchen strives to correct this socio-

economic injustice," said Leduc-Gauvin.

The kitchens also serve a social function. Located in community centres, church basements, schools and other organisations, they enable participants "not only to economize and prepare more nourishing meals, but to enjoy the companionship of

other women," Champagne explained.

"When people are struggling to live off low incomes, loneliness and psychological stress becomes more rampant. Collective action helps people deal with this," added Norman.

Collective kitchens also help keep down waste. According to Norman, about \$50 million worth of food is wasted in Québec every year.

Though mostly single-parent women participate in such projects, many other people have become involved, including the elderly and even students, she said.

A recent report by the Action Committee on the Status of Women reflects the economic difficulties confronting women. Women earn 66 cents to every dollar earned by men, and those in lower-paying job categories have experienced a drop in income.

"People don't realize that with full-time minimum wage work people still live below the poverty line," said Norman.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Priorities for whom?

by Susana Béjar

This Wednesday at Senate, the debate will continue over McGill's Task Force Report on Priorities.

The 67-page document, unlike most paper pushed at McGill, deserves the attention of students. It is being set up as the canon that will soon underlie major decisions on the future of the University.

After over a year of revisions and backroom discussion, the report has finally gone to Senate for approval. As of its last meeting, senators began the task of amending it point-by-point. The process is slow, dull, painstaking, and many of the proposed amendments seem nitpicky and insignificant.

But when you're dealing with a blueprint for the University as a whole, even the smallest points can have far-reaching implications.

At more than one level, the task force is being debated in terms of the "two cultures" of the University, an analogy meant to differentiate between quantitative and qualitative studies at McGill.

Some senators have called the task force an attack on qualitative studies, the humanities, etc. Other administrators, like VP Finance François Tavenas, say they're tired of that analysis.

To date, there are over 40 amendments still to be debated. Student representatives on Senate are not responsible for any of these ideas, and in fact are resisting many of the proposed changes.

Among the eight amendments debated at Senate's last meeting were:

- An amendment affirming the University's commitment to collegiality, academic freedom and responsibility, as being on equal footing to its commitment to "equity, quality, coherence, and balance". (carried)

- A recommendation emphasizing undergraduate education as a budgetary priority.

(carried)

Noble gestures.

- A clause that would make the Board of Governor's Budgetary Planning Group — and hence the budget — accountable to Senate. (defeated)

Had this amendment passed, the power gap between Senate and the Board of Governors would have been that much narrower.

Conflict between the two bodies has been a source of tension in the University for years. Dean Abbott Conway said the motion contradicted Québec statutes — though he also pointed out that those statutes date back to the nineteenth century.

- An amendment making the money allocated to undergraduate faculties contingent upon the performance of the faculty. (carried)

This item places struggling faculties at great risk. Those already doing well can count on extra cushions of funding, despite the fact that most weaker faculties have been starved by underfunding.

This motion reaffirms the worst fears voiced by critics of the task force and its use of nebulous terms like "excellence" and efficiency.

- A motion to strike the task force's recommendation to decrease undergraduate enrolment. (defeated)

By the way, undergraduate student president Kate Morisset contributed to the defeat of this amendment. She both spoke and voted against it, arguing that the task force's recommendations "must be taken as a whole".

According to McGill principal David Johnston, the recommendation to decrease undergraduates "shouldn't be read as one that diminishes our commitment to undergraduate education."

The movers of the amendment countered that decreasing enrolment makes no sense because it means decreasing McGill's operating grant from Québec.

Election candidates get candid with grad students

by Dan Robins

The grads got together at Thomson House last week to talk autonomy with the candidates for Students' Society executive. Big surprise: everyone was in favour.

Perhaps VP Internal candidate Jeremy Dolgin summed it up best. "On the question of graduate autonomy, like everyone else, I'm obviously for it."

Dolgin's sort of a rebel candidate. His entire campaign cost under \$15, and he raised ire earlier in the day by suggesting that council executives are perhaps a tad overpaid.

Only one of his two opponents was at the meeting: Kelly Gallagher-MacKay, current editor in chief of the *Tribune*.

"I want to make Students' Society work for its membership," she said — and then, remembering where she was, added, "I'm assuming you won't be members."

The other candidate for VP Internal is Alex Johnston, daughter of McGill's current principal, who was spending the evening in residence leading a discussion on sexual assault, as part of Sexual Assault Awareness Week.

Karla MacDonald, who's running for VP External, was absent for the same reason. The other candidates for this post are David Messenger and Jason Prince.

Both Messenger and Prince have been involved in housing issues, Messenger through the Students' Society, and Prince through the QPIRG housing project. But they differ over FEUQ, the fledgling province-wide student federation of which McGill is now a member.

Messenger said FEUQ "has its

good points", while Prince is definitely against membership. Neither candidate will get to make that decision, though; it's going to a referendum during the election period.

Darier's job

The only graduate running for office is Eric Darier. He's running for VP Finance.

"Oh, by the way, I've changed my mind," Darier joked. "I'm against autonomy — I want a job next year."

If the Post-Graduate Students' Society and Students' Society go their separate ways, Darier will no longer be eligible for Students' Society council. But he encouraged students to vote for him as "insurance".

His opponents all acknowledge the problem of convincing the graduates to vote for an undergraduate. At one point, Darier opponent David Gruber nearly suggested they might as well vote for the grad candidate.

All of the VP Finance candidates said the words "fiscal responsibility". Paul Mackie talked about achieving "complete computerization of all functional matter that goes through Students' Society."

Lev Bukhman talked about all his experience, and how wonderful the Post-Graduate Students' Society is.

Planning and priorities?

Susan Vivian, running for VP University affairs, said that her biggest concern was with the Senate Task Force on Priorities and Planning report, which aims to

establish the University's financial and academic goals for the next ten years.

Vivian's opponent, Rosalind Ward-Smith, did not attend.

And then there were the presidential candidates. Scott Mitic said, "one of my greatest concerns is our deficit." He suggested student needs might be left out of discussions of how to deal with the deficit.

"My platform is sort of similar to Scott's," said Andrew Richardson, though he focused more on quality of education. He suggested that a student review of professors would be one way of helping.

The speeches were followed by questions.

First, the candidates for President and VP Internal were asked about frats: "What are you going to do about them?"

The proto-presidents seemed fairly positive about them. Mitic had just come from a presentation to the Inter-Fraternity Council meeting, and Richardson said, "I think the frats do a lot of good work for charity."

MacKay was not as positive: "I'm less than fond of frats," she said, but added she would be bound by the Students' Society constitution.

Dolgin was far more straightforward. "Fraternities are the antithesis of what student life should be," he said. "I think they're completely and totally disruptive."

In addition, the VP External candidates were asked if they could handle French. Prince answered, in French, that he could.

Messenger told a halting joke about his French, and then promised to take lessons.

...city council

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meeting.

"Recently Gardiner promised opposition members that the agenda would be ready five days in advance, but what we got at that time was mostly routine public works motions," Rotrand said.

He said all the important motions came in a supplementary agenda distributed on the Thursday night before Monday's meeting.

The same problem occurred during the Drapeau administration of the '60s and '70s, when an agenda with 200 items on it was made available only two working days before each meeting, according to Rotrand.

"Mayor Doré's administration is like Drapeauism all over again. They are as powerful and contemptuous as he ever was."

There are currently 50 Council members — 42 MCM members to one independent councillor, one Civic Party councillor, and three each from the Municipal and Democratic Coalition parties.

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Off the dole, into the doldrums

by Ruth Abramson

Bourassa's government may think it's weaning people off the welfare system through 'job training', but critics say the programs grate on the lives of the poor.

Québec's new Work and Employment Incentives Program came into effect last August, as part of an Income Security bill known as C-37, a bill designed to cut government spending.

According to a government guide, the incentives program was created because "too many people who were able to work were given aid on a long term basis."

But according to Ken MacLeod, a welfare rights counsellor at Saint Columba House, "In the government's eyes, the goal of the program is to get people off the welfare system. But in reality, there are not enough employers and no real training."

The Québec government changed welfare's universal 'bottom rate', classifying people into four new categories. The payments vary with category.

'Non-participants', who refuse to take part in the training program, receive the lowest payment. 'Non-available' status covers those over age 55, those with a child under six, or anyone with a long-term medical problem.

Moving up the payscale, a person is 'available' if they can work but no work is available, or if they have a medical problem that will last less than one year. A 'participant' is anyone actually working.

A welfare recipient who participates in a program, working 20 hours per week may earn only \$43 a month more than someone living alone who is not working but is considered available, said MacLeod.

Welfare recipients in the "available" category are expected to participate in either a "job training program," such as working for a business or a community organization, or they can take advantage of educational opportunities.

Job training or cheap labour?

Claire Wallot, a community organizer and welfare rights counsellor at Saint Columba House calls the new incentives program "ridiculous." She said, "For the employer, it's cheap labour."

Maureen Richardson, 31, is a single mother of two, a student at Concordia University, and a

participant in the program. For 80 hours of work, Richardson gets an extra \$45 a month, plus a bus pass.

"I don't know why it's called an incentive program," she said. "It doesn't give you any incentive. People need a reward, some kind of reason for working."

Richardson was hired last June to be a research assistant for a non-profit organisation. But she never had the chance to do any research.

"I haven't done anything that would deserve that title," she said. "It's kind of ridiculous if you think sitting around answering phones all day prepares you for the real world job market."

According to Wallot, most of the jobs in the program don't require much training. Many employees end up working as janitors or for community groups. These groups often can't afford to

"The training is not useful at all. After 12 months the participants feel let down because they have nowhere to go and they are not eligible for employee benefits under the program. I don't buy the government's logic that the salary is welfare," said Kinnlock. "The government is using a blame the victim strategy."

employ anyone else, she said, nor are they able to hire recipients after the project is through.

Still, Richardson feels she's been lucky with her job placement. "The job itself is fine. It's the welfare policy that's poor," she said.

According to John Kinnlock of

Multicaf, a community soup kitchen, "The program provides us with people because we can't afford to pay a lot. We are forced to turn to the program."

Multicaf gets \$100 a month for each of 12 employees hired to work as kitchen helpers, cleaners, and office managers. This results in a profit of just \$1400 a year for Multicaf.

But Kinnlock said, "the training is not useful at all." After 12 months the participants feel let down because they have nowhere to go and they are not eligible for employee benefits under the program, he said.

"I don't buy the government's logic that the salary is welfare," said Kinnlock. "The government is using a blame the victim strategy."

Too many people, too few places

In Québec last year, approximately 200 000 welfare recipients were available to work in the program, but only 35 000 job positions were made available, according to government statistics.

Wallot said she thinks employer's attitudes toward welfare recipients may be responsible for the lack of job opportunities. Employers often think workers will come to work late, or that they won't be good workers, she said.

"Good jobs (in the program) are rare," said Wallot. "The biggest problem is that a welfare agent chooses the (job) for the worker. It may not be at all appropriate for the worker."

In one case, a former truck driver on welfare was sent to counsel older people, she said.

Last December, *La Presse* reported that in 1988 Hyundai said they would hire 200 welfare recipients. Of these people, 85 took a training course and only 24 got

jobs. Those who were employed worked only seven or eight weeks before they were asked to quit. They were not told why and they were not given letters of reference. Only three employees remain.

At the end of the program, participants automatically revert to non-participant status and are

It's kind of ridiculous if you think sitting around answering phones all day prepares you for the real world job market.

expected to find their own jobs and they lose the extra money they received when working.

The government's job programs have done little to alleviate the financial and psychological pressures associated with poverty. According to Wallot, many people with psychological problems seek 'available' status before they are ready because they need the money.

"Some people are forced to go back to school even if they don't want to. I've met women in their fifties who go back to high school. It takes 6 or 7 years to finish and then no one wants to hire them," said

Wallot.

Job placements are supposed to last from six to 24 months. However, Wallot said most placements do not go beyond the initial six months. And when the program finishes, a participant must wait six months before re-applying.

Penalized for poverty

Critics of C-37 say the government's strategy for bringing welfare recipients into the workforce is doing more to harm them.

"By punishing them, the government thinks they will be more inclined to get their own jobs," said Kinnlock.

Although an individual may be accepted into the new incentive program, the complexity of the law and other factors may result in faulty classification.

"I know some people have been misled into signing a document that says they aren't available to participate," Kinnlock said. This tactic may be used to avoid making the government look bad due to the excess of applicants, he said.

Those who are considered available for the incentive programs must accept any job the government offers. If an individual refuses a job, or quits, they are penalized, said Jerry Kaashoek, a member of a Montréal Anti-Poverty Group.

"The whole welfare system is based on the false pretense that you can take somebody who's been on welfare for ten or 20 years, put them in a couple of employability programs, then they're supposed to go get their own job," he said.

According to the welfare law guide, a single person can be fined \$100 a month for a year after refusing a job until they either accept it or find another, he said. Refusal of a second job offer could lead to another fine of \$100 a month.

GRAPHIC: PROCESSED WORLD



THE MCGILL DAILY

COMMENT

You serve, I'll lobby

We've seldom seen student politicians as incensed as the ones who dashed into the *Daily's* offices Thursday evening to tell us student services fees are rising by 6.5 per cent next year, completely contrary to students' wishes.

Their case is simple and compelling: the only student input into this decision is through a powerless advisory board, and all the students on the board voted 'no'. But it's going to happen anyway.

In addition, the hike is based on the word of student services directors. They say they need the money, though there are no figures or budget projections to back this assertion up.

Since the increase will go mostly to Athletics, whose budget is gargantuan and whose activities fall a little short of life-or-death, this is a serious omission.

But why the shock? This is business as usual.

Why should a six per cent increase in an already-small fee stir such ire, when barely a word was said about the Board of Governors' decision to ratify another round of tuition fee increases in February?

Students don't have a voice at BoG either, at least not one that counts. Last year, students protested the fee hikes, but the guv'ners scurried into another room and passed the increase anyway.

The situation at the provincial level was the same. Québec education officials refused to meet representatives of student federations ANEEQ and FEUQ about the tuition increases, no matter what action students took.

The truth is, consultation and representation for students has no genuine force at McGill, nor at any other level of educational policy. The service fee increases are typical of how the game is played.

The administration's ongoing assault on the Continuing Education students' union, MACES, is another case of harassment and intimidation being used to prevent students from gaining any control over their own affairs.

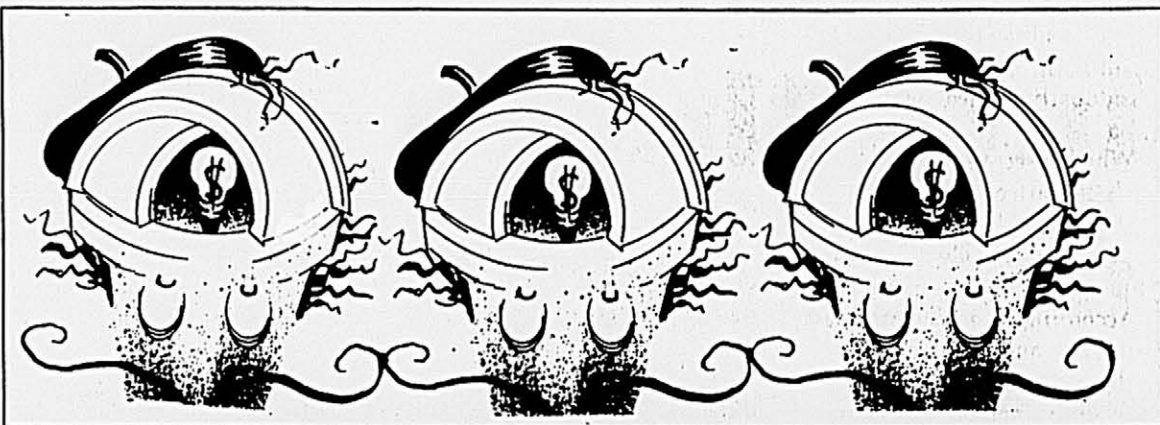
The people who are fighting the services fee increase have done little for MACES, possibly because Cont.Ed. students have few personal links with daytime students at McGill.

Most of the candidates for the next round of Students' Society elections aren't even discussing real student power, perhaps because the Society in its current state doesn't seem like the place for it.

But the fallout from apathy about student power is all around us — rising fees, litigation against student unions, the space squeeze for student groups. The ultimate end of the process will be the disappearance of the student community (if such a thing still exists).

Reclaiming terms is a pleasant sport. It doesn't cost a cent. So students might put their nets out for 'democracy', 'autonomy'... and maybe, 'movement'.

Carl Wilson



LETTERS

To the Daily:

Around about election time every year, people hear a lot of platitudes and claims about policies and finances. Sometimes, these figures can be misleading, yet rarely are erroneous facts and figures cleared up. This year, I found one I just couldn't let pass.

Eric Darier is running for Students' Society VP Finance. On his pamphlet, Mr. Darier claims that "\$50 000 was spent on FEUQ before students had even voted on whether or not to join." In point of fact, when McGill students voted on the issue, a little less than \$12 000 had been spent on the organization itself, while \$3500 had been donated to a legal challenge against last year's tuition fee hike, and \$6500 had been spent on a 1989 conference called "Les États Généraux sur l'Éducation". All this for a grand total of \$22 000, less than half of what Mr. Darier claims, and all of it passed by council.

Mr. Darier's campaign speaks of political and fiscal accountability. I'd like to ask Mr. Darier to be accountable to the facts, as well. He may have a problem with the way Students' Society has handled graduate students with regards to FEUQ; that is no reason to resort to untruths which harm the reputation of both FEUQ and SSMU. Students deserve more than this from their prospective leaders.

Alex Usher
SSMU VP External

To the Daily:

I congratulate the *Daily* on its Lesbian and Gay Issue, but as a gay man, I must comment on the unsigned article "Closet cases read this!"

Were it not for the serious tone of the article, I would assume that the whole effort was an ironic illustration of just the sort of closeted self-hatred the author attacks.

He says he laughs because straight society sees homosexuals as 'flamers' when he knows better. "It's a whole other world that I just wish most people could see," he says. How he expects 'most people' to see is a mystery when people like himself are afraid to put their names to their vitriolic articles.

Repression and internalized homophobia are tragic consequences of society's reaction to our identity. 'Coming out' is out most available and effective means of combat. This author's failure to recognize this makes a mockery of his attack on 'closet cases'. All his superfluous words on the disgrace, revulsion and shame of the closet could have been summed up in his final word: *unsigned*.

Pat Johnson
BA U3

Ed. note: Actually, the article was submitted with a name, but we lost it. The *Daily* regrets the error.

To the Daily:

In Jan Weryho's letter to the February 27 edition of the *McGill Daily*, he

has finally admitted that he is "proud" to be anti-American. He has also expanded the scope of his ill-feelings.

His hatred for the United States is no longer enough. He has now attacked Christians with an ill-conceived declaration that Western Christianity is a dying religion. He has also added that one surviving element of Christianity is its hatred for Islam. I will quote Mr. Weryho, because based on his past responses, he will most certainly try to deny what he has written or attempt to change the context of it. Jan wrote, "Western Christianity is moribund as a religion, but the old hatred of Islam persists." His linkage is clear, definite, and unambiguous. However, if there is still any doubt as to what he is saying, Jan tries to justify his remarks by referring to the Crusaders as "people who use to slaughter his co-religionists". What he writes here is purposely vague. He knows that ambiguity is very difficult to criticize.

For Mr. Weryho's information, Christianity promotes tolerance, not hatred. As a Christian, I am deeply offended by and resent Mr. Weryho's vicious, inexcusable, and heinous attack on my Faith. There is absolutely no excuse under any circumstances for anybody to attack another religion because it isn't their Faith. His attacking a religion he knows absolutely nothing about is deplorable!

I hope that in time Mr. Weryho continued on page 10

HYDE PARK

War and the power of prayer

Opinion by Graham Barron

In their addresses to their respective nations after the announcements of the beginning of hostilities on January 17th, both George Bush and Brian Mulroney prayed for a quick and decisive victory in the Persian Gulf. One wonders, though, which god they pray to. Neither Catholic nor Protestant religious leaders, apart from fruitcakes like Billy Graham, have given the war their theological imprimatur. The Pope repeatedly called on his constituency to condemn the war, and launched his own diplomatic effort (which was scuttled after the outbreak of fullscale war).

General Norman Schwarzkopf (which translated means 'Blackhead') seems to have a different understand-

ing of what prayer is when he was quoted in *The Globe and Mail* on February 28th as saying "they (the Iraqis) aren't part of the same human race as we are... I have to pray for that." This statement was made during a demonstration of the tactics used by the coalition forces, complete with 'football terminology and battlefield maps'. Schwarzkopf characterized his own military planning in this way: "absolutely extraordinary". He means by this, in his own words, that coalition forces killed "a very, very large number of Iraqi forces" (estimates by the CBC have been from 100,000 to 200,000 Iraqi dead at the cost of about 100 coalition soldiers).

Earlier articles in the *Globe* have provided a suggestive account of

Schwarzkopf and his father. Daddy Schwarzkopf, it turns out, was employed by the Shah of Iran, during his stint as dictator, as the CIA's advisor in the setting up of the Shah's notorious secret police. Iran represents the last time U.S. attempts to control by proxy a major Gulf oil producer went wrong. The Shah's secret police was known for its domestic terrorist acts, which included such niceties as the torture and rape of dissident Iranian university students. The Schwarzkopf family seems to have an intimate relationship with the Middle East. You might even say that Schwarzkopf junior is taking up where his daddy left off.

Given a record like this, we should prepare ourselves for a barrage of "evidence" telling of Iraqi atrocities in Kuwait. And we should be equally pre-

pared to consider that these atrocities have been fabricated by Schwarzkopf and the boys. There are a number of good reasons to take this skeptical approach to upcoming news. First, reports from refugees from countries not involved in the conflict who left Kuwait recently have described Iraqi soldiers as civil in their handling of Kuwaiti citizens (*Globe* Feb. 27th). Second, despite the coalition's complete control of Kuwait, there has been no immediate concrete evidence of the alleged widespread atrocities; if they were really so widespread, you can bet they would have been instantly published — a time lag like this should be greeted with suspicion. Third, the American consulate was reported to be untouched (*Globe* Feb. 28th). Even the seal of the American state which was attached to the

entrance was left entirely alone. If the Iraqi soldiers were undisciplined, surely they would have attempted to deface the symbol of the country which was most responsible for the destruction of their homeland.

So as far as Schwarzkopf's use of the term "prayer" goes, he clearly relies more strongly on secret police, western high technology, media manipulation, diplomatic pull and military power. We might interpret his statement "I have to pray" that Iraqis "aren't part of the same human race as we are" as a signal of his personally guilty mind. If the Iraqis turn out to be human, which judging by their vulnerability to death would seem likely, Schwarzkopf may be worried that his gods (whoever they might be) will consign him to hell.

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by Peter Clibbon

The gulf in the student movement

If the Persian Gulf war has accomplished anything, it has revealed the degree to which Québec's student associations and federations have become unable or unwilling to handle hot issues outside of the immediate student arena.

Whether recovering from last year's tuition fee battle or judging the war "outside of the student scope", student 'leaders' have left the peace movement in a vacuum.

According to co-ordinators of Montréal anti-war group la Coalition contre la guerre dans le golfe arabo-persique, student governments' support has been more moral than practical.

A number of francophone CEGEPs and university departmental associations have entered the city-wide coalition, but involvement and financial support is missing.

"UQAM has supplied us with an office while Cégep du Vieux Montréal and Cégep Maisonneuve have helped out with printing, but largely our support from student associations has been only on paper," said coalition co-ordinator Andrew Green.

The lack of student support in Québec seems odd, given that Québec is the only large constituency in North America to show a majority anti-war sentiment right up to the end of the conflict, according to polls. In less pacific regions, such as Ontario, the local branches of the Canadian Federation of Students have been decisive players in anti-war movements.

And normally, Québec student associations have been the most militant ones in the country. But this time many student councils have decided not to discuss an anti-war agenda, claiming an unsympathetic student body prevents them from taking action.

Others, such as McGill's Student Society, have relegated anti-war activism and consciousness-raising to independent student organizations (at McGill, the Troops Out coalition) rather than acting themselves.

"With the Gulf conflict, SSMU decided to let organization begin at the grassroots level and not take a leadership role," said SSMU VP External Alex Usher. SSMU approved funding to the McGill Troops Out Coalition after passing a motion condemning a violent resolution to the Kuwaiti crisis.

Earlier this year, ANEEQ's Conseil Régional de Montréal (CRM) formulated an anti-war statement and joined the city-wide coalition. According to CRM member Ken McMurray, a majority of ANEEQ member schools voted in favour of joining the coalition, sensing a general anti-war feeling in each school.

But beyond organizing a poorly-attended demonstration three weeks ago, ANEEQ's contribution to the coalition has been modest.

"ANEEQ is presently going through a reorganization of its structure, and we can't contribute as much as we normally would. We've lent our name to the coalition and individuals act where they can," said McMurray.

Some have criticized ANEEQ's anti-war stance for misrepresenting its member schools. Although Concordia voted within the CRM in support of the anti-war coalition, the university did not hold a general assembly on the issue. Neither did Dawson Cégep, another member of the CRM.

"We can only tacitly support the anti-war movement at Concordia because general assemblies are hard to organize and very



Student leaders in Québec, whether from ANEEQ or FÉUQ, plodded through the anti-war movement this Winter.

poorly attended," said Concordia VP External James Brown.

FÉUQ protects its name

But Québec's other student organization, FÉUQ, said it doesn't agree with 'lending its name' to a cause not explicitly affecting students.

"ANEEQ loses its credibility when it announces its point of view on every issue. People begin to question whose agenda they are running by," said Usher.

By its own constitution, FÉUQ would require the unanimous approval of all its members before it could adhere to any anti-war coalition.

But according to Patrick Minotti, VP External for the students association of Université de Montréal, getting FÉUQ to agree on non-academic issues is nearly impossible.

"FÉUQ was unanimously opposed to the tuition fee hikes imposed last year, and it managed to get unanimity on another referendum for Québec sovereignty, but an anti-war motion is completely different," he said.

"Some FÉUQ members don't see the war as an important issue, so they won't solicit their students for the mandate to act on the issue within FÉUQ," Minotti explained.

According to Usher, the Persian Gulf conflict wasn't even brought up at the last FÉUQ conference February 17, despite a general anti-war feeling amongst member schools.

"For FÉUQ to pass a resolution, a lot of time and effort has to be put into it beforehand. At the last conference, there was very little we could really do," said Usher.

ANEEQ's McMurray doesn't buy FÉUQ's excuses. "FÉUQ shouldn't have been so passive.

It should be encouraging its members to hold polls and general assemblies on vital issues such as the war. To me, the FÉUQ response sounds like apathy to the limit," he said.

Some go further in condemning FÉUQ's non-opinion on the gulf war, blaming it on the faintheartedness of student politicians.

"There is a serious lack of willingness to get involved in some cases. Some student politicians aren't taking any initiatives because they're afraid of a controversial issue, so they prefer to stay neutral," said Green.



DAILY GRAPHIC: GREG MILLARD

Ain't no Vietnam

Despite the internal political wrangling within FÉUQ and ANEEQ, some say the lack of student anti-war sentiment had other causes. McGill Political Science Professor Sam Noumoff blames the nature of the conflict itself, and the kind of popular opinion it has mobilized.

Student associations are just mechanisms, Noumoff said, and are unable to act on anything other than a strong sentiment from their constituencies. And in this war, Noumoff argued, anti-war sentiment wasn't broad enough.

In the 1960s and 70s Noumoff wrote and agitated against the American war in Vietnam. Although he noted certain similarities between the two conflicts, he said the differences are crucial.

According to Noumoff, the most important difference was how Americans and Europeans understood their adversary.

"Although Hussein appealed for wealth distribution, a Palestinian state and other revolutionary demands, his recent records of torture and repression, especially against the Kurds, disproved his rhetoric.

"This confusion of the justice of the Iraqi struggle prevented many from acting, even though most peace activists easily recognized American imperialism," said Noumoff.

The nature of Iraq's internal political structure and militarism prevented many from joining the anti-war camp, he added.

Peace activists during the Vietnam war often sympathized with the nationalist and socialist politics of the North Vietnamese. America was fighting an adversary popularly supported in Vietnam.

In 1967 Québec's student association was the first to invite North Vietnamese students on a speaking tour of Québec campuses. Large crowds filled the Leacock Auditorium to watch and applaud the North Vietnamese students as they condemned America's policy in South-East Asia.

Also, America's duel with Iraq lasted less than a month. The Vietnam war raged over a decade, allowing people to better understand the conflict and watch the never-ending stream of body bags.

And though activists are more apt to recognize what many call an imperialist war, they are faced with split imperatives. The exhaustion from last year's tuition hike battle, for example, has kept UQAM and ANEEQ out of the fray during the war.

Perhaps, too, students are more concerned now about immediate issues, with direct adversaries, and less willing to become involved in broad geopolitical struggles.

The contrasts observed between May 1968 and this fall's student strikes over campus conditions and unemployment in France parallel closely the differences between the Vietnam and Gulf War periods of student action in North America.

Desperate economic times and cynicism about macropolitical issues have likely spawned much of the student apathy about "bringing the war home".

Nevertheless, the conservative, hesitant rhythm of Québec student leaders' thoughts on the Gulf issue can be chilling.

While thousands die because their leaders dared threaten Western economic interests, it seems much of the student movement here has become too cowed, confused and insecure to speak above a peep.



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Social crisis in Nicaragua goes unheeded

by Wayne Hiltz

Nicaragua's social and economic situation has declined sharply since the Chamorro government took office last year, said two Nicaraguan social workers at McGill last Friday.

"By following the IMF [International Monetary Fund] readjustment proposals in cuts to health, education, and social welfare, the government's policies are leading to an explosive social situation," said Marta Palacios, director of social work at the University of Central America in Managua.

The social workers are on a cross-country tour to raise awareness of Nicaragua's crisis situation now that it is no longer in the headlines.

Government efforts to reduce social spending have led to a six week-old doctors' and health workers' strike, not only over salaries but for a basic supply of medicine and functioning equipment, Palacios explained.

The UNO (National Opposition Union) government has taken a hard line against the health workers' demands because it fears giving in will create a precedent for teachers and other public-sector workers to raise their own demands.

"It is not prepared, economically or politically, to accept their demands. The government only wants to decrease the budget deficit, even if this means that the population dies," Palacios said.

Regarding cutbacks in social security, she said it appears payments for war veterans, senior citizens and for child care are not very important.

"The government is expending a lot of energy to encourage people to contribute to the social security system and to discourage people from taking out what is rightfully theirs," she asserted.

Education has been another sector hard hit by the UNO government's budget slashing measures. More than 7 000 high school students will not be able to advance to university this year because of a lack of government funding, Palacios said this is a substantial increase since last year.

"With less money than last year and with a lot more students, the University is barely surviving as it is, never mind developing new programs," she explained.

Fearing a strong backlash if it took away free tuition for students, the government has instead decided to reduce funding for bursaries.

"Especially with Nicaragua's high inflation rate, this will discourage a lot of students because they can only go to university if they have bursaries for their food, shelter, and transport," Palacios said.

State workers are also feeling the brunt of the government's austerity measures. In a country of 3 million people, 25 000 public employees are threatened with dismissal this month because of the IMF's readjustment program for Nicaragua.

Palacios said the government plans an "occupational conversion"

GRAPHIC: UTNE READER

to help these workers deal with their layoffs. Workers giving up their jobs will be given one year's salary and bank loans if they want to start small businesses.

While this sounds like an attractive deal, Palacios said it will not mean any improvement for either the laid-off workers or the economy.

"There is already a lot of competition in the informal sector with people selling in the streets and bus stations. With people having a lot less money because of inflation, it is also very uncertain that these workers will be able to

survive," Palacios asserted.

Peasant farmers will become another victim of the UNO government's market-orientated policies, Palacios predicted. The former Sandinista government gave peasant farmers special considerations if they did not meet their loan payments.

"Peasants must now put their farms up for collateral. If they don't meet their loan payments, the banks can expropriate their farms, which does little to encourage agricultural production," Palacios said.

The UNO government's harsh measures have not gone unopposed

by popular sectors. There was a general strike by pro-Sandinista unions last July. Barricades were erected in the capital of Managua and the country was on the verge of civil war.

A similar strike was threatened last October when the government failed to live up to the accords that ended the previous strike. But UNO backed down and agreed to suspend the lay-offs and austerity measures for six months.

"Many popular sectors are again mobilizing because the October accord, like the previous ones, is not being respected," said Ana Isabel

Espinoza, a social work professor at the University of Central America. "They are trying to convince the government to soften these harsh measures."

"The government's hard-line stance on these austerity measures and the health workers' strike may only cause another social explosion."

Judicial board: Awards legal, but guidelines are needed

by Dan Robins

The Judicial Board gave Students' Society the go-ahead to administer its proposed "Awards of Distinction" last week, but some people still have reservations.

The scholarship is to be funded by \$50 000 donated by Scott's Foods as part of the contract negotiated with Students' Society last summer.

The University Scholarship Subcommittee, which administers other university scholarships, refused to manage the awards, claiming the terms were not compatible with their own policy.

Graduate rep to Students' Society, Eric Darier, challenged the awards for what appeared to be a potential conflict of interest between administrators and potential recipients.

"The problem is the way it was set up in the first place," Darier said. "It could look like a kickback, either to individual members of the Students' Society or to the Society as a whole."

Debbie Pentesco, Students' Society VP University Affairs, disagreed. "I feel very strongly that

the terms of the tendering encouraged creative initiatives, beyond bread and butter issues," she said.

She said other companies seeking the catering contract with Students' Society had included proposals for scholarships and other special projects.

But the tenders were not available to be examined by the Judicial Board as many had been sent back (according to standard business practice, Pentesco said) and no copies were made.

The board ruled 3-1 to let Students' Society continue with the award, but said that Council would have to come up with conflict of interest guidelines to deal with potential problems.

Two of the four members of the selection committee for the scholarships are students. Though they are not eligible for the scholarships, the students that appointed them are.

Students' Society politicians may be recipients of the scholarship awarded for leadership abilities.

"It's not a disinterested body that's administering this award,"

said one Judicial Board member.

Another questioned whether putting the money into a scholarship fund (instead of, say, lowering Scott's prices) suited the "welfare and interests" of the student body as a whole.

But the Board decided that these were political, rather than legal issues, and did not fall under its mandate.

"It's obvious that this issue is highly political," said Darier after the hearing. "Therefore, the Judicial Board felt they could not make a decision. However, the issue of ethics will have to be dealt with by council."

Pentesco was less restrained. "Victory! Victory!" she joked. "Let's go spend the fifty thousand!"

"I think that the Judicial Board has confirmed what Council already confirmed," Pentesco said. "All that remains is some minor tinkering with how we can make the process better."

The deadline for applications was last Friday so you've missed your chance.

EVENTS

Monday 11 March

META puts on another Vegetarian Festival. Food and information. FREE. Union 107/8, 3480 McTavish. Michael Klover MD gives a short talk at noon. 11h-15h.

The engineers begin their 48-hour bad movie watching marathon at noon.

Beer and pizza served as the Real Estate Club presents Canderel's Jonathan Wener who will tell you how to get started in real estate. FREE. Bronfman 426. 18h-45.

Third Annual Montreal Improv Tournament begins today as teams compete for the Golden Chicken Cup. \$3.00 students, \$6.00 general. Player's Theatre, 3480 McTavish. 19h30.

"Common Security" is a workshop about peace and controlling the arms trade. Guest speaker is Richard Sanders, editor of *Press For Conversion*. FREE. Info: 487-4305. Unitarian Church, 3415 Simpson. 19h30.

"Who Knows the Truth?" is a panel discussion with 3 Science and 3 Philosophy professors on the relationship between science and philosophy. FREE. Leacock 232. 19h30.

Good Shepard Community Centre needs volunteers to visit elderly shut-ins. Info: Patricia Coon 933-8932.

continued from page 6
will search deep in the recesses of his conscience and will have the courage to come to the realization that his anti-American and anti-Christian sentiments are wrong. Hatred of people because of nationality, religion, race, or their nation's government policies, etc. is morally unjustifiable in all cases.

Don Sutherland
G-1

To the Daily:

I would like to add a simple, additional entry to Mr. J. Singerman's definition of Zionism in his letter to the *Daily* (February 13th). He writes that it "is simply the expression of the Jewish people's right to their own state in the land of Israel," and that it "duefully protects the religious and political rights of all minority group citizens."

Rather a simple reduction of a complex ideological question. Space permits me only this simple addition. Simply put, the political agenda of Zionism as manifested in the state of Israel is one where difference, the difference between Jew and non-Jew, has been used as an instrument to relegate the rights of native Arab inhabitants of the region.

People like Rabbi Meir Kahane have admitted that the non-Jewish Israeli has fewer rights than the Jewish Israeli.

For instance, according to the Law of Return, any Jew anywhere may take up Israeli citizenship whereas non-Jews like my father who was born in Jerusalem and whose family have lived there as far back as anyone can remember, have NO SUCH RIGHT.

Nyla Jean Matuk
Graduate Studies

To the Daily:

John Marianov displays thinly veiled anti-Israelism (if not anti-Semitism) in his tirade against the state of Israel and its supporters (Letters, February 13). He implies that sympathetic portrayal of Israelis who have been left homeless, injured or dead by Iraqi Scud bombings is racist propaganda. I wonder how a report on people who are suffering in a war which they did not cause and in which they are not participating could be anything but sympathetic.

Although Marianov justifiably expresses concern for the Iraqi civilians, the Israelis, in his belief, somehow to not deserve the same considerations. And of course, he neglects to mention the sympathetic portrayals of the Saudi Arabians who have come under Scud missile attack because this would undermine his theory of the pro-Israel media conspiracy.

The more offensive part of Marianov's letter compare Israel and its supporters to white supremacist Africaners. He also conveys the nausea he experienced upon reading the *Gazette's* article about the support of Montréal Jews for Israel. Sorry, John, but you'd better stock up on the Gravel because, as far as I can tell, it's the truth.

Marianov is correct when he states that many North American Jews have spoken out against the positions of the major Jewish organizations. As in any democracy, Israelis and those concerned with Israel discuss and debate its government, policies and future. Although many Jews in the Diaspora do not support the present government of Israel or its policies, they definitely support Israel itself. And in this time of crisis, most have set aside their differences to show solidarity for Israel.

The comparison to South Africa is, of course, spurious. Israel is a democracy with Arab citizens and Arab members in the government. The Jews returned to the land of Israel not to

create a "bastion of white supremacy among the barbaric hordes" as Marianov suggests, rather they returned fleeing the barbaric hordes of Europe and elsewhere.

Tammy Hauerstock
U1 Arts

To the Daily:

No one must question the right to free expression in the press. We may haggle over anti-hate laws, but the fundamental concept is clear.

I found the article entitled "Safe sex worth staying up for" as offensive as anything I have ever read in the *Daily* (this is really saying something). I must underline that I am not homophobic and I fully support gay rights. My Monday morning would have been complete, however, without reading about, "Marksmearing my ass with K-Y." Even the relatively innocuous, "Ohhh, I'm gonna cum now Raghu," was a little much. I was not, however, forced to read the article, and what is repugnant

to one may be enchanting to another.

It is rather the *Daily* editorial staff whose words must be questioned. In a manifesto dashed together with the self-righteousness characteristic of the intellectually immature, the *Daily* defended free speech gallantly. Of course it had to say "fuck off" at least once to prove its disdain for "the hated establishment" which apparently seeps around everywhere like mustard gas.

We might question whether it is free speech or 'political correctness' that

the *Daily* minions dream about under the stars. How quickly would the *Daily* print an article (not a letter) denouncing abortion or praising fuel-air explosives research and McGill? The examples are extreme, but the message is plain: perhaps the *Daily* has confused the left of centre with the sublime. Perhaps the editorial staff should stop congratulating themselves for their piousness, and make the *Daily* interesting to those other than the 'politically correct'.
Sam Sniderman, BA U3

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Monday, March 11, 1991

CLASSIFIEDS

Ads may be placed through the Daily business office, room B-17, Union Building, 9h00 - 14h00. Deadline is 14h00, two days prior to date of publication.

McGill students: \$3.50 per day; \$2.50 for 3 consecutive days, \$2.25 for 4 or more consecutive days. McGill Faculty and Staff: \$4.50 per day. All others: \$5.00 per day. There is a 25 word limit. There will be a charge of 25¢ for each word over the limit. Boxed ads are available at \$4.00 per ad per day - no discounts on boxing. EXACT CHANGE ONLY PLEASE.

The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damage due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print any classified ad.

341 - Apts., Rooms, Housing

Available - room immediately. Price negotiable, 1 min. from McGill, female preferred. Call 499-0043.

Sublet - 2 1/2. Available May 1st. Clean building in ghetto. No critters. Price negotiable. Leave message 286-0155.

Sublet opportunity - 4 1/2, renovated last year, close to school, NO bugs, furnishings possible. May 1 to Sept. 1 with option. \$480 month. Craig/Cory 284-5010.

Need extra money? Looking for cheap accommodation till end of school year. Got a spare couch or small room? Call 277-7210.

Bedroom to sublet in huge 4 1/2. 1 minute walk from McGill. Available May-August. \$340/month (negotiable). Call 287-7573.

2 huge rooms to sublet - fully furnished apt. Washer/dryer, dishwasher, rooftop sundeck! 5 min. from Concordia, 7 from McGill. \$275 neg. May 1-Aug. 31. 933-4121.

Great 5 1/2 to share starting July, 10 min. from metro Henri-B. Rent: 145\$ if share with 3, or 217\$ if 2. You'll love it! 967-7617.

343 - Movers/Storage

Moving/Storage. Closed van. Will transport you and your goods safely. Local and long distance. Cheap. Steve 735-8148.

Large Econoline Van - for moving local & long distance. Reliable with reasonable rates. Alex, 324-3794.

350 - Jobs

Bartenders - Get yourself a very lucrative part-time job. The Master School of Bartending offers training courses and placement service. 2021 Peel St. (Peel Metro). 849-2828 (student discounts).

Extra money. Person required who's very familiar with SPSS X program on mainframe computer. Needed to plot and run data for research project. Should be good in statistics analysis. Available on and off until July. Flexible hours. Good pay. 625-7346.

352 - Help Wanted

End of Year Blow-Out!!! Students needed to promote end of year trip to Cancun Mexico! Earn commissions, \$\$\$, free trips and valuable work experience. Apply now!! There are two positions available to start right away, call Student Travel Service at 1-800-265-1799 and ask for T.J.

356 - Typing Services

Success to all students in 1990-91. Theses, term papers, resumés, etc. Bilingual. 21 years of experience. 7 days a week. \$1.75 double spaced. IBM. On McGill Campus. Peel St. CALL Paulette Vigneault 288-9638 or Roxanne 288-0016.

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361 - Articles for Sale

Surplus liquidation. Silk scarves & lingerie, cotton t-shirts, etc. No GST or PST. 2009 Bishop. 847-0810.

Computers - IBM PS1s, PS2s, XTs; NEC and Toshiba laptops. Some software, hardware. Numerous packages available, lowest price guaranteed. For information call Spencer at 286-1577.

Honda Civic Hatchback 1989 86,000 km. Red 5-speed, AM/FM stereo cassette, all season radials. \$7,200. Call Joe 766-9230 after 7pm.

For sale: 3 easels, 1 architect's desk unit, various paintbrushes. All in excellent condition, price negotiable. Call Mrs. F. Axelera 737-2084.

1986 Blanch racing bike. Campy equipped. Kept in excellent working condition. \$450.00 or best offer. Call Marcus after 5:00 pm. 738-4556.

Single box spring and mattress - excellent condition, from Sears. \$90.00. Call early morning or late evening. 843-8985.

For sale: Ladies Bridgestone 12-speed bicycle. Excellent condition, used only 3 months. Purchase price \$550, asking \$400. Call 933-7156, after 6pm.

372 - Lost & Found

Lost ring. Did you see MacBeth or Gowan Feb. 8? Did you find an amethyst ring in the washroom? Please call 284-4412. Reward!

374 - Personals

Is your closet getting too small? Gays and Lesbians of McGill offers an information/counseling talkline. Call with questions, problems or just to talk. Phone 398-6822 or drop by Union 417 M-F, 7-10.

The Bible witnesses of Jesus Christ in the old world; there also exists a witness of Christ in ancient america. For more information and free book, call 731-0612.

Gay Concordia student, 32, wants to meet cool guys under 35 for friendship and ? It's your choice. Let's hang out. I'm into hardcore, industrial and Foulounes. Call Matt 457-7012 - Call man.

Anyone with a complete set of notes for 1989/90 Prof. Longworth's class 101-312 please call 499-0821. Willing to pay for them.

Gays and Lesbians of McGill invite you to their "Come As You Are" - dance - Saturday, March 16, 21:00h, \$4.00 admission, Union Ballroom.

383 - Lessons Offered

LSAT, GMAT and GRE preparation courses - Take our 20 hour intensive weekend courses prior to each exam. Tuition fee - \$190. For information call 1 800 387-5519.

385 - Notices

Lesbian/Gay discussion group held Fridays at The Yellow Door Coffee House (3625 Aylmer) at 17:30.

If you need help sorting out your legal problems call or drop by the McGill Legal Information Clinic in January. We're here for you from M to Fri., 10-5 pm. • 398-6792 • Rooms B20, B21, B01B of the Student Union Building.

Are you interested in going to Xiamen, China to study 4th level Mandarin? June 10 to August 9, 1991. If so call Kelvin, 678-1965, 445-6539.

Red Herring jello bake-off: pick up the stuff at kiosk on the 8th and return it to be judged on 11th. Fab prizes! 398-6816.

Yelp! Yelp! Red Herring deadline March 11th! This means you should submit stuff that will make people laugh. Union 406, 398-6816.

The feminine Factor: Women of the Torah with Rabbi S. Majesky, Tuesday March 12, 1:30 pm. Chabad House - Jewish Students' Center 3429 Peel St. (514)842-6616.

Ivy League Torah Study program summer camp of Judaic studies for university students in Catskills, N.Y. Info. - interviews Tuesday March 12, 1:30 pm. Chabad House 3429 Peel St. 842-6616.

Latvians! Lithuanians! Estonians! Interested in a Baltic Society at McGill? For further info, call Astrida 284-6579 or Robert 484-9734.

Naturism/nudism - Federation of Quebec Naturists offers info seminars on naturist recreation, nude beaches and resorts. Ever think of trying it? Find out where you can! For everyone! 252-3014. Box 581, Cartierville, H4K 2J8

Vegetarian Festival
All this week, 11 am-3pm, Union Bldg.
Room 107/8. Free food samples,
information, displays, talks, films, cooking
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META 345-5679.

387 - Volunteers

Drug rehabilitation centre needs volunteers: work with youth or adults; organize group activities; individual support; lunch hour supervision. Bilingualism, flexible schedule preferred. Call Linda 931-2536.



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POLL LOCATIONS March 12, 13, 14, 1991

Location	Tues. March 12	Wed. March 13	Thurs. March 14
Bishop Mtn. Hall (main entrance)	16h30-19h00	11h00-13h30 16h30-19h00	11h00-13h30
Bronfman (1st floor, outside elevators)	11h00-16h00	10h00-16h00	10h00-16h00
Burnside (basement, across elevators)		10h00-16h00	10h00-16h00
Education (main lobby)		10h00-16h00	10h00-16h00
Leacock (1st floor, outside elevators)	11h00-16h00	10h00-16h00	10h00-16h00
McConnell Eng. (1st floor lobby, outside Sadie's)	11h00-16h00	10h00-16h00	10h00-16h00
McIntyre/St. Bio. (1st floor, outside elevators)		10h00-16h00	10h00-16h00
Redpath (across turnstiles, Redpath exit)	11h00-19h00	10h00-19h00	10h00-16h00
Thomson House (main lobby)	12h00-14h00 17h00-19h00	12h00-14h00 17h00-19h00	12h00-14h00
Union (kiosk)	11h00-19h00	10h00-19h00	10h00-16h00

NO EXCUSES VOTE

12
THE ARTS & SCIENCE
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